

Catholic Parish of Our Lady and St George

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Fr Niall Harrington; Fr John Victor

Fr Joseph Anthiamkulam (Syro-Malabar Chaplain);

Rev. Joseph Baffour-Awuah (Permanent Deacon)

Our Lady and St George's Primary School:

Lower Site 8520 8500. Upper Site: 8520 3552

Holy Family Catholic College: 8520 0482/8520 3587

Charity Number: 234092



SECOND SUNDAY OF THE ADVENT (A)

Dear Parishioners,

This Sunday's Advent readings introduces us to two of the great figures of Advent: the Prophet Isaiah and St John the Baptist. St John the Baptist is the one prophesied by Isaiah: 'a voice cried in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord, make his path straight.'

From St John the Baptist in today's Gospel, we can learn three things on which to focus during this Advent Season, to help prepare our hearts for the coming of Jesus.

First, John's message was 'repent, for the kingdom of Heaven is close at Hand.' Advent provides us with a great opportunity to reflect, to enter into silence, to stop and take stock of our lives. How am I really doing? We have a great tradition in England of making a good, wholesome and humble Confession during Advent. This is the key to opening a door to a whole river of grace into our souls. Our Lord's first words as He began His public ministry remind us of the importance of turning more towards God: 'repent and believe the Gospel'. (MK 1:15)

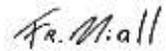
Second, John teaches us the importance of detachment and ascetism. We are told that he resided in the wilderness, that he wore a garment of camel-hair, and that his food was locusts and honey. This Advent, like John, we can detach ourselves a little from our regular way of living, so we can make space for God to enter more deeply. Could I be spending too much time on the internet, watching TV, or wasting time in some other way? Do I need to curtail my alcohol or food consumption? Could I turn off the radio or other electronic devices occasionally, so I can enter more deeply into the spirit of Advent?

Third, the Gospel shows us the great humility of St John the Baptist. People are coming from everywhere to listen to him-even the mighty King Herod. Yet John knows he is

but an instrument, a signpost, he does not get carried away. 'The one who follows me is more powerful than I am, and I am not fit to carry his sandals.'

In the old testament, the Prophet Isaiah uses a beautiful imagery to convey what the coming of the kingdom of God will mean: 'The wolf lives with the Lamb, the panther lies down with the kid...' Jesus will bring a time of grace. The Kingdom of God can be found within us, and the fruits of the Holy Spirit can reign in our hearts. A light shines forth in the darkness.

Have A Blessed Week



(Fr. Niall)

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MARRIAGES: By appointment. At least six months notice is required. Please speak to one of the priests for more information.

Dates for your diary: Parish Advent Reconciliation Service 7:30p.m. Monday 9th of December. 6 priests available for individual confessions.
Parish Carol Service Sunday 22nd December at 5p.m.

Thank you to the parishioners who collected the altar servers' albs for washing. There are still 10 remaining albs for washing

Walk With Me for Advent – Walk with Me is printed as an A6 booklet which contains a brief reflection, either on the scripture reading of the day or on a catechetical theme. Available from the repository for £1.

Readers Training Day Saturday 14th December 11 am to 2 pm. Jenny Richmond is having a training/rehearsal day for readers who would like to proclaim the word at Christmas Eve Midnight Mass and Christmas Day [8.30 am, 10 am and 12 noon] and at New Year's Eve Midnight Mass. Also any parishioners who are interested and would like to become a reader please come along to introduce yourself and rehearse.

SVP Senior Citizens Lunch This year's Senior Citizen lunch will take place today Sunday 8th December from 3 pm to 5 pm and as usual will be held in Our Lady and St George lower site school. Sign up sheet for those interested is on the noticeboard. Please let someone who you know and would be interested and in need of company invite them to come along. Places are limited to 50.

PARISH FILM CLUB - DECEMBER SCREENING The next screening of the film club will be on Sunday 15th December in the back room of the parish hall, Entrance to small hall will be signed and is at bottom of hall car park near OLSG school entrance gate. Doors open 3.40pm film starts promptly at 4.00pm. Entrance free. Refreshments available. The title of the film is A Wonderful Life.

Booking a Mass Intention....Please note....if you want to book a Mass Intention for a certain day, you need to give at least 6-8 weeks notice. Sunday Mass intentions get booked up very quickly. In order to avoid disappointment please book the Mass well in advance.

On Tuesday 10th of December Year 10 will be attending Mass to begin their retreat and children will be receiving Holy Communion for the first time on Wednesday next and the 5 young people will be receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. Every blessing to them and their families.

Carol Services : Tuesday 17th of December, at 7p.m. Holy Family School in church
 Wednesday 18th of December, Our Lady and Saint George's Primary School
 3:45p.m. in church
 Sunday 22nd December at 5p.m, Our Lady and Saint George's Parish Carol
 Service with Scripture Readings in church.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH CHILDREN We are planning to re-instate The Liturgy of the Word with Children at the Sunday Mass (probably the 10.00am mass) This involves the withdrawal of children to a room close to the main body of the church to celebrate their own Liturgy of the Word. The purpose of adapting liturgy for children is to lead them into full, conscious and active participation in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Liturgy with children, as with adults, demands dignity, clarity, and simplicity. If you are interested and would like some more information as to what it involves please contact Bernadette on 07804611914 bernadette.wilson1@ntlworld.com

Thank you to Pat and family for the wonderful homemade bannerettes for the Advent Wreath in the weekday Chapel.

Congratulations to the Syro-Malabar children who did so well at the national competitions in Liverpool.

There are leaflets available for any parishioner to take and deliver to any lapsed Catholics who are being invited back to church.

STEWARDS OF THE GOSPEL A SOTG Working Group meeting will be held at 7:30pm on Thursday 12th December in the church meeting room.

Mass attendance last weekend 703. Syro Malabar 140. The collection last week was £1397.79p. Average weekly standing order collection is £350. Diocese Youth Service Appeal £335.76p. Thank you.

<u>counting</u>	24/11F	01/12B	8/12F	15/12E	22/12B	29/12E
<u>Rota</u>						
<u>Hospital</u>	24/11B	01/12D	8/12A	15/12B	22/12B	29/12D
<u>Rota</u>						

 Joke of the Week: A shepherd cooked me a pie. It was blackberry and apple. That was nice of him
 (Attributed to Tim Vine)

Our parish safe guarding officials are Jenny Richmond and Marina Tuddy.

Mass times and intentions at Our Lady and St. George

06:00pm	Bridget Browne (Rest in Peace) (Fitzpatrick)
Sun 8 December	SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
08:30am	Timothy Sullivan (Rest in Peace) (Mary)
10:00am	Pamela Wanliss (Rest in Peace)
12:00noon	Anthony Yamson (Intentions) (Sylvia)
02:30noon	Syro Malabar Mass
Mon 9 December	THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
9:15am	John Hand (Rest in Peace) (Brenda Cullen)
04:00pm	Whipps Cross Hopital- Mass-(Parishioners)
06:00pm	Special Intention (Elizabeth)
Tue 10 December	FERIA
09:15am	Mary Costello (Rest in Peace) (Salamonowitz)
06:00pm	John and Mary Staunton (Rest in Peace) (Sr. Anne Marie)
Wed 11 December	FERIA
09:15am	Dennis Eldrido (Rest in Peace) (Salamonowitz)
06:00pm	Parishioners
Thu 12 December	FERIA
09:15am	Mickey O'Brien (Rest in Peace)
06:00pm	Claude Green (Rest in Peace) (Family)
Fri 13 December	Saint Lucy, Virgin and Martyr
09:15am	Patricia Galvin (Rest in Peace)
06:00pm	Deceased Members of the Green Family (Maria)
Sat 14 December	SAINT JOHN OF THE CROSS, PRIEST AND DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH
10:00am	Holy Souls (Sr. Ann Maria)
06:00pm	Edward Fletcher (Rest in Peace) (Joan Carey)
Sun 15 December	THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
08:30 am	Benedict Gibson's Intentions (Family)
10:00 am	Frank Murphy (Rest in Peace) (Family)
12:00noon	Augustine and Josephine Fadina (Rest in Peace) (Agnes)
02:30 pm	Syro Malabar Mass

Prayer List

Christopher Browne, Rose Dennehy, Carol Hogermeer, Brian Keane, Ignatius Keane, Tony McCarthy, Rose O'Neill, Andrea Roberts, Promise Shinondo, Victoria Wyndham, Christine Conway, Nora Meades, Veronica Nolan, Mr and Mrs Charles, Esperanza Buenaventura, Joyce Ross, Christine Raymond, Jacky Boyrow, Thelma Lewis, Tasmin Sparks, Eileen Karim, Sandra Gibson, Archie Garrod, Martin Keane, Alix Charlery, Bridie Lacon, Peter Ikuptati, Mercy Fernando, Veronica Godsave,, Oliver Gaynor, Marjorie Singh, Gunanesan Singarajah, Bill Walsh, Bridget Lyons, Kristina Klimasauskaite, Philomena Spranklen, Jeffrey Mitchell, Michelle Boyle, Carla Cornelius, Cecelia Gibbs, Arthur Gibbs, Ural Gibbs, Gilbert Gibbs, Archie, George and Issac, Luis and Lukas, Comfort Kwawu, Judith Hilton, Gloria and Tracy Joseph, Regina Jose, Kojo Gyebi-Ababio, Thampirajah Baskaran, Linda Campbell, Brid O'Halloran, Hazel Belizaire, Tina Henriques, Christopher O' Neill, Alan and Ross Smith, Stefan, Monica Baugh, Eileen O Kane, Louis Marie, Grace Mecaley, Jadwiga, Matthias Fredberg, Michael White, Bernadette Wilson, Fr. Jean Laurent Marie, Fr Paul Dynan, Roy and Margaret Bandhu, Maura Stone, Alma Willox, John Walsh, Chantale Wildman, Christopher Almeda

Rosary: Weekdays after morning Mass Reconciliation (Confessions): Sat. 10.30am – 11.30am. 5.00pm – 5.45pm. During these times the priest is in the Reconciliation Room, inside the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, to the left. Confessions are also available at other times on request. **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament** Mondays: 10am-7pm; Wednesdays 10am-4pm; Fridays 9.45-10.45am; Saturdays 10.30-11.30am.

Bible Study: Mondays at 8pm, Church Meeting Room